

# The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

## Notes for RCEME Officers Pending the Issue of Standing Orders 1963



The RCEME Heritage Archives



# NOTES FOR RCME OFFICERS

## NOTES FOR RCME OFFICERS

### ERRATA

Page v; For: Honorary Colonel  
19 March 1949 - 19 September 1962

Read: Honorary Colonel Commandant  
19 March 1949 - 19 September 1962

3 June 1963



KARSH



General The Honorable AGL McNaughton  
PC, CH, CB, CMG, DSO, CD

Honorary Colonel  
12 March 1946 - 18 March 1949

Honorary Colonel  
19 March 1949 - 19 September 1962

Colonel Commandant  
20 September 1962 -

NO 1935-1 (ADM 1) 2 APR 63  
NO 1935-1 (MC 1) 2 JUL 63

RESTRICTED

General The Honorable AGI Monaghan  
PC, CM, CH, CMG, DSO, CD

Honorary Colonel  
13 March 1948 - 18 March 1948

Honorary Colonel  
19 March 1948 - 19 September 1962

Colonel Commandant  
19 September 1962 -

HQ 1935-1 (ADM 1B) 9 APR 62  
HQ 1935-1 (ME 1) 3 JUN 63

RESTRICTED

## FOREWORD

Part of the information in this pamphlet was collected at the request of the Director of Administration for the eventual inclusion in a reference book of much broader scope for use by the officers of the Canadian Army concerning the Army customs which have become an accepted part of Army life.

Invariably when a researcher records the customs of a Service and delves into the past for their origins, additional information on our way of life is collected that cannot be classified as customs yet, at the same time, is useful to the young officer in giving him a broader understanding of our Corps. Such material is more properly recorded in a corps' history or in a corps' standing orders.

Information in the latter category has been included in this pamphlet for use by the officers of The Corps until the publication of our Corps Standing Orders.

## FOREWORD

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PC, CH, CB, CMG, DSO, CD

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## ORIGIN OF THE CORPS

"The British made many studies over the years before they finally grouped the bulk of the electrical and mechanical engineering of the army into a new corps called the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) on the 1st of October 1942.

"The formation of REME was carefully studied by the senior staff officers of the Canadian Military Headquarters in London (CMHQ) before the bulk of the electrical and mechanical engineering of the Canadian Army overseas units was grouped in the engineering or "E" side of the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps (RCOC (E)) on the 11th of Jan 1943.

"Finally, after much study and pressure, both internal and external, the corps of Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (CEME) was organized on 24 Feb 44, effective 1 Feb 44, and the first transference of units to RCEME - the Corps being granted the designation "Royal" on the 20th April - was made on the 15th May 44, this date being celebrated as the official birthday. The Corps was redesignated The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers with the same abbreviation on 13 April 53."

-From the paper "The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers " DEME Hist'61



## ORGANIZATION

### HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

#### *Colonel Commandant*

The Colonel Commandant of The Corps is:

General The Honorable AGL McNaughton  
PC, CH, CB, CMG, DSO, CD.

His first appointment to The Corps was that of Honorary Colonel on the 12th of March 1946.

He was made Honorary Colonel Commandant on the 19th of March 1949 and held this appointment until he was made Colonel Commandant on the 20th of September 1962.

-HQC 2502-McN. AGL; 6 Feb 63

The Colonel Commandant of The Corps is appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of the Director (after he has consulted with the RCEME Corps Association and such other senior officers he may wish to consult) through the Chief of the General Staff.

General McNaughton honored RCEME by consenting to be The Corps' first Colonel Commandant until his previously scheduled appointment as Honorary Colonel Commandant expires on the 18th of March 1964.

The Colonel Commandant is responsible for ensuring that the traditions, customs and privileges of The Corps are maintained as follows:

- a. Fosters esprit de corps throughout The Corps.
- b. Advises Army Headquarters as appropriate in his capacity as Colonel Commandant.

- c. Acts in an advisory capacity to the RCEME Corps Association and to unit commanders of The Corps on matters pertaining to The Corps so that uniformity is maintained in such matters as dress and customs.
- d. Advises on the administration and disposition of Corps property and funds.
- e. Advises on Corps charities, organizations and memorials.
- f. Maintains close liaison between regular and militia units of The Corps.
- g. Keeps in touch with the Allied Corps of REME.

-CAO 20-28, 26 Nov 62

### *Honorary Colonels*

Each technical regiment (Militia) of the Canadian Army commanded by an officer of the rank of lieutenant-colonel may have one honorary colonel appointed.

Honorary colonels of The Corps are appointed by the Minister. At present there is only one:

Colonel NS Sherman, OBE, CD  
8 Technical Regiment, Vancouver, BC.

-CAO 20-13, 22 Jul 53

### *Honorary Lieutenant-Colonels*

Each unit entitled to an honorary colonel will be entitled to one honorary lieutenant-colonel.

Each independent technical squadron (Militia) commanded by an officer in rank below that of lieutenant-colonel and whose authorized strength by establishment is at least 200 all ranks, but which unit does not form part of a technical regiment commanded by a lieutenant-colonel will be entitled to one honorary lieutenant-colonel.

The honorary lieutenant-colonels of The Corps are appointed by the Minister. They are:

Lieutenant-Colonel TN Medland, ED  
4 Technical Regiment, Toronto, Ont.

NA Eager, Esquire  
5 Technical Regiment, Hamilton, Ont.

Major AG Kaye  
22 Technical Squadron, Cap de la Madeleine, PQ.

Major GM Young  
24 Technical Squadron, Sherbrooke, PQ.

Lieutenant JA Pigott  
33 Technical Squadron, Sudbury, Ont.

Major CE Garnett, CD  
38 Technical Squadron, Edmonton, Alta.

These appointments are preferably not abbreviated.

-CAO 20-13, 22 Jul 53

## THE CORPS

The Corps consists of the following units under the technical direction of the QMG Branch (DEME).

### *RCEME Units in Canada, CA(R)*

#### EASTERN COMMAND

##### (Static Units)

Headquarters RCEME Eastern Command, Halifax, NS.

No 6 Company, Halifax, NS.

No 7 Company, Fredricton, NB.

201 Workshop, Coldbrook, NB.

222 Workshop, Camp Gagetown, NB.

No 19 Company, St John's, Newfoundland.

(Field Units)

- 3 Field Workshop, Camp Gagetown, NB.
- RCD Light Aid Detachment, Camp Gagetown, NB.
- 1 RCHA Light Aid Detachment, Camp Gagetown, NB.
- 3 CIBG Light Aid Detachment, Camp Gagetown, NB.

QUEBEC COMMAND

(Static Units)

Headquarters RCME Quebec Command, Montreal, PQ.

No 202 Base Workshop, Montreal, PQ.

No 4 Company, Montreal, PQ.

No 5 Company, Québec, PQ.

203 Workshop, St Malo, PQ.

234 Workshop, Valcartier, PQ.

(Field Units)

None

CENTRAL COMMAND

(Static Units)

Headquarters RCME Central Command, Oakville, Ont.

RCME School, Kingston, Ont.

No 204 Base Workshop, London, Ont.

No 1 Production Depot, London, Ont.

No 2 Production Depot, Hagersville, Ont.

No 1 Company, London, Ont.

No 2 Company, Lakeview, Ont.

No 3 Company, Kingston, Ont.

207 Workshop, Kingston, Ont.

208 Workshop, Ottawa, Ont.

210 Workshop, Picton, Ont.

No 8 Company, Camp Petawawa, Ont.

No 14 Company, Camp Borden, Ont.

(Field Units)

2 Field Workshop, Camp Petawawa, Ont.

8 CH Light Aid Detachment, Camp Petawawa, Ont.

4 RCHA Light Aid Detachment, Camp Petawawa, Ont.

2 CIBG Light Aid Detachment, Camp Petawawa, Ont.

WESTERN COMMAND

(Static Units)

Headquarters RCME Western Command, Edmonton, Alta.

No 10 Company, Winnipeg, Man.

212 Workshop, Camp Shilo, Man.

213 Workshop, Winnipeg, Man.

No 11 Company, Vancouver, BC.

214 Workshop, Vancouver, BC.

216 Workshop, Chilliwack, BC.

217 Workshop, Esquimalt, BC.

No 12 Company, Regina, Sask.

No 13 Company, Edmonton, Alta.

215 Workshop, Calgary, Alta.

224 Workshop, Edmonton, Alta.

229 Workshop, Camp Wainwright, Alta.

No 16 Company, Whitehorse, NWT.

219 Workshop, Whitehorse, NWT.

220 Workshop, Fort Nelson, BC.

No 18 Company, Fort Churchill, Man.

(Field Units)

1 Field Workshop, Calgary, Alta.

LdSH (RC) Light Aid Detachment, Calgary, Alta.

2 RCHA Light Aid Detachment, Winnipeg, Man.

1 CIBG Light Aid Detachment, Calgary, Alta.



### *RCEME Units in Europe, CA(R)*

- 4 Field Workshop, Soest, Germany.
- FGH Light Aid Detachment, Iserlohn, Germany.
- 3 RCHA Light Aid Detachment, Hemer, Germany.
- 4 CIBG Light Aid Detachment, Soest, Germany.

### *RCEME Units in the Middle East, CA(R)*

- 56 Canadian Infantry Workshop, Rafah, Egypt.

### *RCEME Units in Canada, CA(M)*

#### EASTERN COMMAND

- 20 Technical Squadron, Halifax, NS.
- 21 Technical Squadron, Moncton, NB.

#### QUEBEC COMMAND

- 2 Technical Regiment, Montreal, PQ.
- 22 Technical Squadron, Cap de la Madeleine, PQ.
- 24 Technical Squadron, Sherbrooke, PQ.
- 25 Technical Squadron, Arvida, PQ.
- 42 Technical Squadron, Quebec, PQ.

#### CENTRAL COMMAND

- 4 Technical Regiment, Toronto, Ont.
- 5 Technical Regiment, Hamilton, Ont.
- 28 Technical Squadron, Peterborough, Ont.
- 30 Technical Squadron, St Catharines, Ont.
- 33 Technical Squadron, Sudbury, Ont.
- 34 Technical Squadron, Sault Ste Marie, Ont.
- 35 Technical Squadron, Port Arthur, Ont.
- 39 Technical Squadron, Windsor, Ont.

#### WESTERN COMMAND

- 7 Technical Regiment, Winnipeg, Man.
- 8 Technical Regiment, Vancouver, BC.
- 9 Technical Regiment (only "A" Sqn is active) Calgary, Alta.
- 31 Technical Squadron, Blairmore, Alta.



- 32 Technical Squadron, Lethbridge, Alta.
- 37 Technical Squadron, Saskatoon, Sask.
- 38 Technical Squadron, Edmonton, Alta.
- 40 Technical Squadron, Victoria, BC.

## RCEME DISTINCTIVE COLOURS, BADGES, BUTTONS AND MUSIC

### DISTINCTIVE COLOURS

A search of War Office records has failed to uncover the origin and meaning of the three distinctive colours used by REME. It is generally believed that the colours were adopted from the three corps contributing men to form REME. These colours and corps are:

Blue	-	Royal Engineers
Yellow	-	Royal Army Service Corps
Red	-	Royal Army Ordnance Corps

These distinctive colours were adopted by RCEME upon its formation on 1 February 1944 and are now described as:

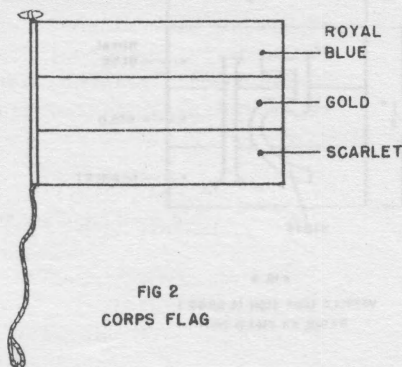
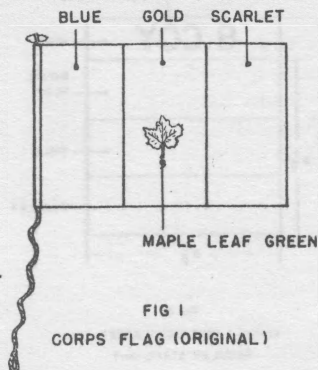
Royal Blue  
Gold  
Scarlet

### THE CORPS FLAG

The Corps flag made of bunting was originally trisected vertically, the colours commencing at the hoist were blue, yellow and red with a green maple leaf in the central division (Fig 1). The design now authorized is trisected horizontally, the upper division royal blue, the center division gold and the lower division scarlet (Fig 2).

-CAO 54-3, 5 Dec 55

The use of the horizontal in place of vertical divisions was stated to have been adopted due to some confusion in distinguishing The Corps flag from some national flags. (This confusion still exists).



The normal size of The Corps flag is three feet wide by two feet deep. Larger flags not exceeding six feet by three feet may be flown on flagstaves of suitable height.

The Corps flag may be flown by all RCEME units of the Canadian Army as follows:

- (a) Regular Army: daily from sunrise to sunset.
- (b) Militia:
  - (i) daily from sunrise to sunset during annual training and camps.
  - (ii) other occasions on the authority of the officer commanding a command or area, when considered necessary for purposes of identification.

## VEHICLE UNIT SIGNS

### *Field Units, CA(R)*

The appropriate serial number in white superimposed on a horizontally trisected rectangle seven inches wide by five inches high (small) or nine and a half inches wide by eight and a half inches high (large) the upper division royal blue, the center division gold and the lower division scarlet (Fig 3). These colours are available commercially in Pittsburgh paint as Spanish Blue, Tulip Yellow and Carnival Red.

Where a serial number is not allotted, a colored rectangle as described above with the abbreviated unit title one

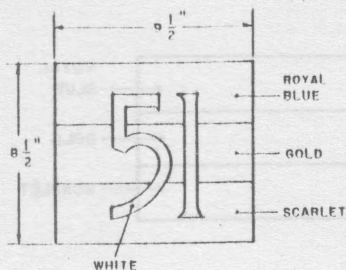


FIG 3  
VEHICLE UNIT SIGN (LARGE)  
REGULAR FIELD UNIT

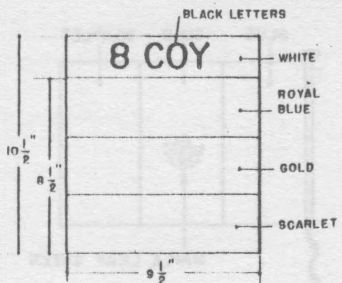


FIG 4  
VEHICLE UNIT SIGN (LARGE)  
REGULAR STATIC UNIT

and a half inches high on a two inch high white bar above.

### *Regular Static Units and Militia Units*

A coloured rectangle with the abbreviated unit title one and a half inches high on a two inch high white bar above (Fig 4).

-Vehicle and Aircraft Markings 1962  
Director's Letter No 21, Feb 61

### THE CORPS BADGE

Adopted 27 February 1950

Superimposed upon a lightning flash, a horse forcene, gorged with a coronet of four fleur-de-lis, a chain reflexed over its back and standing on a globe inscribed with the Western Hemisphere. Superimposed across the lightning flash behind the horse's head, a scroll inscribed "RCEME"; the whole surmounted by St. Edward's Crown, Fig 5.

-CAO 84-15, Issue 167, '27 Feb 50

### *Heraldic Significance of The Corps Badge*

The Badge is based upon that of the British Institution of Mechanical Engineers which includes the rearing horse with coronet and chain standing upon a globe.

The heraldic symbol of a lightning flash means electrical energy and the horse forcene with chain symbolizes controlled power. The horse together with the lightning flash is

intended to show the close relationship between military and civilian electrical and mechanical engineers.

The globe symbolizes the impact of engineering upon the world.

### COLLAR BADGES

Superimposed upon a lightning flash, a horse forcené, gorged with a coronet of four fleur-de-lis, a chain reflexed over its back and standing on a globe inscribed with the Western Hemisphere. The whole surmounted by the Crown; the horses face inwards, Fig 6.

### BUTTONS

As for collar badge with the horse facing in the same direction as in The Corps Badge, Fig 7.

#### Note

Orders and Instructions for Dress of the Canadian Army does not include the word "four". The fourth fleur-de-lis is not seen unless the badge should be sculptured in full proportion instead of bas-relief.

### DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL BADGE

Adopted 15 May 1944

On wreath of laurel three escutcheons; the first raised and charged with Ordnance Arms; the second, lightning flashes; the third a gear wheel. The whole ensigned with the Imperial Crown. Below the wreath, a scroll inscribed "R. C. E. M. E.", Fig 8.

-GO 236, 1944.

### *Heraldic Significance of The Original Badge*

The raised Shield of Arms of the Board of Ordnance charged at the top of the wreath of laurel symbolizes The Corps' genealogy. The escutcheon dexter bearing the three lightning flashes symbolizes electrical energy and the escutcheon sinister symbolizes mechanical power. These two escutcheons together symbolize electrical and mechanical engineering.

The wreath of laurel, a symbol of service and gallantry in battle, implies a military association with the British Crown.



FIG 5  
THE CORPS BADGE



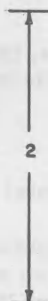
FIG 6  
COLLAR BADGES



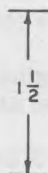
FIG 7  
BUTTONS

BUTTON SIZES - LARGE 40 LIGNES  
SMALL 30 LIGNES  
CAP 20 LIGNES





**FIG 8**  
**THE ORIGINAL CORPS BADGE**



**FIG 9**  
**THE ORIGINAL COLLAR BADGE**



**FIG 10**  
**THE ORIGINAL BUTTONS**

**BUTTONS SIZES - LARGE 40 LIGNES**  
**SMALL 30 LIGNES**  
**CAP 20 LIGNES**



## ORIGINAL COLLAR BADGE

As for Corps badge. (Fig 9)

## ORIGINAL BUTTONS

In brass, in the center a gun. (Fig 10). Messrs Gaunt of London made buttons with an eight spoked cannon wheel.

## CORPS MUSIC

Regimental March - REME Corps March Past

The original arrangement was made up from excerpts from Lillibulero and Whistle While You Work from Walt Disney's film Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Today's score of the Corps March was arranged by Captain D Plater, MBE, the first Director of Music of REME, from the old tune "Lillibulero" (sometimes written as "Lilliburlero" or "Lilli Bulero") and the French song "Auprès de ma Blonde". The former tune comprises 32 bars and the latter, 40 bars for a total of 72 bars of music.

The original of this arrangement can be seen in the REME Museum at Moat House, Arborfield, Berks, UK.

Major TJ Edwards in Military Customs wrote:

"Although numerous songs are produced during wars there is usually one which gains prominence in popularity far ahead of all others. In the seventeenth century it was "Lillibulero" an old Irish tune to which Lord Wharton wrote some verses about 1688, when William, Prince of Orange, landed in England at the invitation of a large influential section of the English people, in order to oust the reigning sovereign, James II, from the throne. In the army it was adopted as a marching song and the Duke of Marlborough's troops sang it all through the war of the Spanish Succession, which campaign is commemorated by the four famous battle honours of "Blenheim", "Ramillies", "Oudenarde" and "Malplaquet".

From the cover of a recording of Old French songs this note is found about Auprès de ma Blonde:

"This admirable song, which Villars' soldiers sang in 1712 in the Quesnoy, dates from the seventeenth century. It is thought that it was composed in 1674 at the time the Dutch Fleet was attacking Noirmoutier, which would explain why the

husband of the beautiful girl is a prisoner in Holland. But the tune is older than that. It was in existence during the reign of Louis XIII".

The Regimental March is played for any March Past by members of The Corps. It is not usual to stand at attention for the playing of the Regimental March, except at parades when the March is being played and a salute taken.

The Corps has no Slow March or Bugle Call.

-CAO 32-5

### BUGLE BAND

The School, operating on its present establishment, (E/RCEME/100/8; p 9) is permitted to form a 30 piece bugle band; the personnel to be found from volunteers within the establishment.

The band receives an initial and an annual maintenance grant for the provision and maintenance of uniforms. An annual grant is also provided for the purchase of music, minor repairs, and maintenance of the instruments and for other miscellaneous expenses.

The Drum-Major is allowed to twirl the mace.

## PARADES AND CEREMONIALS

### THE CORPS BIRTHDAY - 15 MAY 1944

Although the new formation known as the Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers was approved on the 24th of February 1944 effective the 1st of February 1944 (the designation "Royal" being granted by HM King George VI on the 20th of April 1944) it wasn't until the 15th of May 1944 that the first units were transferred to RCEME. It is this event that is celebrated as The Corps' birthday.

Each year an outdoor Church Parade with Drum Head Service is held at the School on the Sunday nearest to the birthday. Families and friends are invited to attend. After the Service the guests are served tea in the various messes.

Each year the Area Commander of Eastern Ontario Area is invited to hold his annual inspection of the School on or near the 15th of May in order that it may be included in the celebrations.

## THE CORPS MEMORIAL

Entrance to The School is through the Memorial Gate dedicated by the then Honorary Colonel Commandant, General The Honorable AGL McNaughton, PC, CH, CB, CMG, DSO, CD, on the 28th of October 1961.

The inscription reads:

THIS ENTRANCE  
IS  
DEDICATED  
TO THE MEMORY  
OF ALL RANKS OF THE  
CORPS OF  
ROYAL CANADIAN ELECTRICAL  
AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS  
WHO HAVE DIED IN THE SERVICE  
OF  
CANADA

UNVEILED OCTOBER 1961

## DESIGNATION

### TITLES

The formal title of The Corps is "The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers".

The Corps was authorized on the 1st of February 1944 under the designation "Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers".

His Majesty King George VI approved the designation "Royal" to the new Corps and the official title became Royal

Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers on the 20th of April 1944.

The present designation became effective on the 13th of April 1953.

The correct title and authorized abbreviations of each component of The Corps is as follows:

The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

RCEME

Corps royal canadien du génie électrique et mécanique  
(abbreviation to be decided)

The Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers School

RCEME School

Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

DEME (by usage only)

Direction du génie électrique et mécanique  
(abbreviation to be decided)

A Headquarters, Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, of a command -

HQ RCEME, Central Command (etc)

A Base Workshop -

202 (etc) Base Wksp

A Workshop -

206 (etc) Wksp RCEME

A Field Workshop -

1 (etc) Fd Wksp RCEME

A Technical Regiment -

2 (etc) Tech Regt

A Technical Squadron -

24 (etc) Tech Sqn

A Canadian Infantry Brigade Group Light Aid Detachment -

1 (etc) CIBG LAD

A Regiment Light Aid Detachment -

1 RCD (etc) LAD

## *Officer Appointments in The Corps*

The correct title and authorized abbreviation for each officer appointment peculiar to The Corps is:

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

DEME (formerly DME), a colonel

Deputy Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

DDEME (formerly DDME), a lieutenant-colonel

Senior Electrical and Mechanical Engineer

Senior EME, a colonel or lieutenant-colonel

Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer

CEME, a colonel or lieutenant-colonel

Commander, The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

CREME (we use the British abbreviation) a lieutenant-colonel

Command Electrical and Mechanical Engineer

Comd EME, a lieutenant-colonel

Assistant Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

ADEME (formerly ADME), a lieutenant-colonel

Deputy Assistant Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

DADEME (formerly DADME), a major

Area or Camp Electrical and Mechanical Engineer

Area EME, Camp EME, a major

A Brigade Electrical and Mechanical Engineer

BEME, a captain

A RCEME officer of the rank of captain or lieutenant

EME



These abbreviations were modernized to the present form on the 27th of June 1951. This was necessary for two reasons:

Firstly, members of other Corps were forgetting or didn't know that RCEME's responsibilities right from its formation included "the inspection, maintenance and repair of electrical and mechanical equipment" with certain exceptions such as the "RCE will retain the responsibility up to the junction-box of the lead-in of the outside power supply" and RC Sigs would be responsible only for 1st line maintenance on certain wireless sets.

-CARO 4299 of 1944

Secondly, to reflect the word "Electrical" in The Corps' official title.

-HQ 2001-75/70, SD Letter No 4272, 27 June 51

REME has since adopted this change, the first indication on record in DEME (AHQ) being found on page 1 of the DEME's Liaison Letter No 41, February 1958, (The War Office). This change is not reflected on the cover of these Liaison Letters until August of the same year.

### *Other Ranks Appointments*

#### WARRANT OFFICERS

Rank	Appointment
Warrant Officer Class 1	(i) Regimental Sergeant-Major
	(ii) Engineering Technician Sergeant-Major (formerly Artificer Sergeant-Major) and now includes the Draftsman Sergeant-Major in RCEME
	-HQ 2501-2/10 TD 2106 (ME1) 17 Sep 62
	Sergeant-Major
	Superintending Clerk
Warrant Officer Class 2	(i) Engineering Technician Quartermaster-Sergeant (formerly Artificer Quartermaster-Sergeant) and now includes the Draftsman QMS in RCEME
	-HQ 2501-2/10 TD 2106 (ME1) 17 Sep 62



Rank	Appointment
Warrant Officer Class 2 (cont'd)	Quartermaster-Sergeant
	Quartermaster-Sergeant Instructor
	Quartermaster-Sergeant Superintending Clerk
	Storeman Quartermaster- Sergeant

(ii) Company Sergeant-Major

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Staff-Sergeant	(i) Engineering Technician Staff-Sergeant (formerly Artificer Staff- Sergeant) and now includes the Draftsman Staff-Sergeant
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-HQ 2501-2/10 TD 2106 (ME1) 18 Sep 62

Staff-Sergeant

Staff-Sergeant Instructor

Staff-Sergeant  
Superintending Clerk

Storeman Staff-Sergeant

Sergeant	(i) Armourer Sergeant
	Machinist Sergeant
	Orderly Room Sergeant
	Sergeant
	Sergeant Clerk
	Sergeant Draftsman
	Sergeant Instructor
	Sergeant Storeman

Rank	Appointment
Sergeant (cont'd)	Sergeant Vehicle Mechanic
	Sergeant Welder
	Transport Sergeant
Corporal	(i) Lance-Sergeant
	(ii) Armourer Corporal
	Corporal
	Corporal Clerk
	Corporal Draftsman
	Corporal Instructor
	Corporal Orderly Room Clerk
	Corporal Storeman
	Corporal Vehicle Mechanic
	Corporal Welder
	Machinist Corporal
	Transport Corporal
Craftsman	(i) Lance-Corporal
	(ii) Armourer
	Batman
	Clerk
	Draftsman
	Driver
	Machinist
	Storeman

-Based on CAO 20-17, 9 May 55

## The Introduction of Engineering Technicians

On the 29th of October 1962 the term "artificer" (described 31 Oct 41 by Lord Beveridge as "technical non-commissioned officers able to supervise and direct expertly the work of other experts") was deleted from the appointment titles for warrant officers and staff-sergeants and replaced with the designation Engineering Technician. At the same time, the artificer trade titles were redesignated Master ...Technician.

Previously the term artificer was used to designate the top level of a trade and was restricted to warrant officers and staff-sergeants. The artificer courses included training on supervisory and management responsibilities in addition to the detailed trade skills and knowledge.

In keeping with the Army Policy that trades pay is compensation for trades ability, it was necessary to separate the supervisory and management responsibilities from the trade skills and knowledge to allow tradesmen to reach the group 4 level without the rank requirement. These policy changes are being included in all new group 4 trade specifications.

The Association of Professional Engineers of the Province of Ontario introduced the registered Engineering Technician in 1957. The standards for registration as an Engineering Technician are similar to the training standards for top-level RCEME tradesmen in supervisory positions and thus it was decided to adopt this designation.

The Engineering Technician in RCEME is defined as a technical non-commissioned officer who:

- a. has attained group 4 trade qualification,
- b. has successfully completed RCEME Senior NCO and engineering technician courses, and
- c. holds the rank of staff-sergeant or warrant officer.

### *RCEME Trades*

#### RCEME TRADES CA(R)

Trade	Abbreviation
Airplane Technician	Air Techn
Assistant Instructor RCEME	AI RCEME

Trade	Abbreviation
Body Repairman	Body Rpmn
Communications Systems Technician	Comm Systems Techn
W Draughtsman Electrical and Mechanical	Dtmn E & M
Electrical Mechanic	Elec Mech
Fire Control System Technician Anti-Aircraft	FCS Techn AA
Helicopter Technician	Hel Techn
W Instrument Technician	Inst Techn
Machinist Fitter	Mach Fitter
Master Aircraft Technician (formerly Aircraft Artificer)	Mr Ac Techn (Ac Art)
Master Communication System Technician (formerly Communication System Artificer)	Mr Comm System Techn (Comm System Art)
Master Electrical Technician (formerly Electrical Artificer)	Mr Elec Techn (Elec Art)
Master Fire Control System Technician (formerly Fire Control System Artificer AA)	Mr FCS Techn (FCS Art AA)
Master Instrument Technician (formerly Instrument Artificer)	Mr Inst Techn (Inst Art)
Master Radar Technician (formerly Radar Artificer)	Mr Radar Techn (Radar Art)
Master Radio Technician (formerly Radio Artificer)	Mr Radio Techn (Radio Art)
Master Vehicle Technician (formerly Vehicle Artificer)	Mr Veh Techn (Veh Art)

Trade	Abbreviation
Master Weapons Technician (formerly Weapons Artificer)	Mr Wpns Techn (Wpns Art)
Radar Technician	Radar Techn
Radio Technician	Radio Techn
Typewriter Mechanic	Type Mech
Vehicle Mechanic Tracked	Veh Mech T
W Vehicle Mechanic Wheeled	Veh Mech Wh
* Watchmaker	Wtchmkr
Weapons Technician	Wpns Techn
W Welder	Wdr

TRADES COMMON TO ALL CORPS  
USED IN RCEME CA(R)

Trade	Abbreviation
W Clerk Administrative	Clk Adm
W Driver Mechanical Transport	Dr MT
W Steward	Steward
W Storeman Clerk	Stmn Clk

RCEME TRADES CA(M)

Trade	Abbreviation
W Militia Electrical Mechanic	Militia Elec Mech
W Militia Radiac Mechanic	Militia Radiac Mech
Militia Recovery Mechanic	Militia Rec Mech
Militia Vehicle Mechanic Wheeled	Militia Veh Mech Wh
Militia Welder	Militia Wdr



# TRADES COMMON TO ALL CORPS USED IN RCEME CA(M)

Trade	Abbreviation
W Militia Driver Mechanical Transport	Militia Dvr MT
W Militia Clerk Administrative	Militia Clk Adm
W Militia Signaller	Militia Sig
W Militia Storeman Accounting	Militia Stmn Acct

W denotes trades in which women may be trained.

\* denotes trades which are not normally found in Canadian Army regular establishments; ie, "Wartime trades".

-Canadian Army Manual of Trades and Specialties

## ALLIANCES

The Corps is allied with The Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

## ACCREDITATIONS

The Commandant of the School is an accredited liaison officer to the following US Army Schools:

The US Army Ordnance Guided Missile School  
Huntsville, Alabama

The US Army Ordnance School  
Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland

The US Army Signal School  
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey

The US Army Southeastern Signal School  
Fort Gordon, Georgia

This arrangement is reciprocal.

## FORMS OF ADDRESS

### OFFICERS

#### *On Parade*

On parade, an officer should always address other officers senior to him, whether by rank or appointment, as "Sir". An officer addressing other officers equal or junior to him use rank and name with the exception of subalterns who will be addressed Mister and name instead of lieutenant or second-lieutenant and name.

#### *Off Parade*

The Colonel Commandant is addressed by his military rank and name or "Sir". He may be referred to as the Colonel Commandant when the occasion occurs but should not be personally addressed as such.

Honorary Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels are addressed by their (honorary) military rank and name or "Sir".

The Director is addressed by his rank and name or "Sir". He may be referred to as the Director as the occasion occurs but should not be personally addressed as such.

Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors may be addressed as "Colonel" or "Major" but this practice should as a rule be indulged in by junior officers only when they have had considerable length of service.

Field officers should be addressed as "Sir" by captains and subalterns but the title should not be laboured or used so frequently as to make the conversation sound ridiculous.

It is advisable to avoid addressing captains as "Captain Jones" except on parade. However, if it is desirable for any reason to address an officer by his rank, this form may be used. It is wrong to address a captain as "Captain" without the surname.

When a subaltern is referred to verbally, he is spoken of as "Mister", but in writing he is referred to by his actual rank, ie, lieutenant or second-lieutenant.

The use of Christian names and nick-names should be sparingly indulged in by newly joined officers. Use by equals in rank should be guided by age of officers and length of acquaintance.

Officers wishing to be addressed by their christian or nick-names on other than formal occasions should inform the officer to whom he wishes to grant the privilege.

## OTHER RANKS

A warrant officer class 1 normally is addressed by his surname preceded by Mister and is referred to in writing by his appointment and rank, eg,

Engineering Technician Sergeant-Major (WO 1) -  
ETSM (WO 1).

-Abbreviation applied for  
HQ 2525-1/10 (ME 1) 20 Dec 62

A warrant officer class 2 normally is addressed and referred to by his appointment, which may be abbreviated to Quartermaster-Sergeant or Sergeant-Major as appropriate. He is referred to in writing by his appointment and rank, eg,

Engineering Technician Quartermaster-Sergeant (WO 2) -  
ETQMS (WO 2).

-Abbreviation applied for  
HQ 2525-1/10 (ME 1) 20 Dec 62

All staff-sergeants are addressed and referred to by rank.

A sergeant is addressed and referred to by his rank.

A corporal is addressed and referred to by his rank except a lance-sergeant who normally is addressed and referred to by his appointment.

A craftsman normally is addressed and referred to by his rank except a lance-corporal who is normally addressed and referred to by his appointment.

-CAO 20-17, 9 May 55

## ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

### OFFICERS

(To be published at a later date).

## OTHER RANKS

### *Warrant Officers Class 1*

Conductor  
Garrison Sergeant-Major  
Master Gunner

Regimental Sergeant-Major

All other Warrant Officers Class 1

### *Warrant Officers Class 2*

Garrison Quartermaster-Sergeant  
Master Gunner

Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant

Quartermaster-Sergeant

All other Warrant Officers Class 2

### *Non-Commissioned Officers*

Squadron, Battery or Company Quartermaster-Sergeant, Staff-Sergeant

Sergeant

Bombadier or Corporal

Warrant officers and non-commissioned officers take precedence in these groups according to date of promotion. Lance-sergeants take precedence over all corporals and bombardiers. Lance-corporals and lance-bombardiers take precedence over all craftsmen or equivalent rank.

-CAO 20-17, 9 May 55

## DRESS

### GENERAL - ALL RANKS

The dress prescribed in Orders and Instructions for

Dress of the Canadian Army and amplified from time to time by Director's Letter No 9 is the dress of The Corps.

The approved cleansers for web equipment are:

Belts 1937 pattern - 8030-102-5691

Web Dressing Liquid Khaki,

Web equipment 1951 pattern - 8030-102-5692

Web Dressing Liquid OD, No 7.

Sticks or canes are not normally carried. When carried, officers' swagger sticks and warrant officers' and non-commissioned officers' canes will conform to the following:

Officers: a three-quarter inch diameter stick, 22 to 24 inches in length covered with dark brown leather.

WOs and NCOs: as specified on page 3 of Director's Letter No 9, 29th of May 1959.

#### BELT BUCKLE

The RCEME belt buckle for wear with the 1937 pattern web belt is described in detail on page 4 of the Director's Letter. Officers and WOs 1 use the officer's pattern cap badge and the remaining ranks use the issue cap badge on the buckle plate. The buckles may be treated for tarnish resistance.

#### FORAGE CAP

The approved pattern of khaki forage cap for RCEME officers and WOs 1 is that manufactured by Messrs Thomas and Stone. The material is baratheia.

#### LANYARD

Corps lanyards are worn at the discretion of local commanders. They are worn on the left shoulder by officers and WOs 1 and on the right shoulder by the remaining ranks.

The eye of the lanyard is passed under the shoulder strap from the rear and is worn at the level of the arm pit.



The swivel snap of the lanyard passes through the eye and continues past the under side of the breast pocket button and thence into the pocket.

There are a large number of lanyards worn and for sale that are incorrectly made. The Corps colors of the lanyard should follow the sequence of royal blue, gold and scarlet from top to bottom for that portion of the lanyard from the shoulder strap to the lanyard eye.

### CREST

The specification for proportion and color used for reproducing the RCEME crest is on page 6 of Director's Letter No 9 of 2 July 1959. The specification for the Crown is found in CAO 64-5.

When worn on a blazer by officers and WOs 1, the RCEME crest will be woven with metallic thread; and when worn by the remaining ranks, in silk. The crest is mounted on a royal blue background. There are a quantity of incorrect crests being worn, unfortunately many of these have been made by reputable manufacturers.

### TIES

The RCEME Officers' Tie is described as follows:

Parallel rows of RCEME Corps badges in gold alternated with rows of scarlet maple leaves on a royal blue background running diagonally downwards from the left shoulder at an angle of 45 degrees.

The tie will be approximately two and seven-eighths inches in width at the broad end, one and seven-eighths in width at the narrow end and fifty inches in length.

The material will be terylene.

The RCEME Corps Tie is described as follows:

Parallel stripes of royal blue, gold and scarlet running diagonally downwards from the left shoulder at an angle of 45 degrees. The gold stripe will be above the scarlet stripe. Their dimensions are:

Royal blue - 0.80 inches in width  
Gold - 0.10 inches in width  
Scarlet - 0.15 inches in width

The size and material of the tie - as that for the RCEME officers' tie.

All ranks are permitted to wear The Corps tie; however the officers' tie is restricted to officers of the CA(R), CA(M) and members of the RCEME Corps Association.

There are many incorrect Corps ties worn and for sale. The first lot of officers' ties has not the proper shade of blue.

## OFFICERS

The dress for the Colonel Commandant of The Corps when acting in the capacity of his appointment is as follows:

The Colonel Commandant wears colonels' rankbadges, uniform and accoutrements of The Corps. Corps cap and collar badges and cap band will be worn in place of the Royal Crest, gorget patches and scarlet cap band.

An honorary colonel, if formerly of colonel rank or higher may continue to wear the uniform, rank badges and accoutrements he was previously entitled to wear. If an honorary colonel is a civilian and wishes to provide himself with a uniform he may wear the same rank badges, uniform and accoutrements of The Corps prescribed for the Colonel Commandant.

An officer while attending a university function, may if entitled, wear academic gown and hood over the uniform. The academic headdress will replace his military headdress.

When in civil court, except when on duty under arms or as an escort, headdress will be removed when the judge or magistrate is present.

For other officers see "Orders and Instructions for Dress of the Canadian Army".

## MESS

The home of The Corps is at RCEME School in Kingston, Ontario. Here is found the Mess for the officers of The Corps.

## THE CORPS OF RCEME OFFICERS' MESS

### *General*

Equipment or weapons are not worn in the Mess. Web belts and sam brownes may be worn.

Members do not come to attention when entering the ante-room or dining-room. Members do not click their heels at any time.

### *Mess Nights*

Dinner on Mess Nights is a parade. Officers assemble in the ante-room at least one half hour before the hour set for dinner.

It is customary for every officer on arrival to go up to the senior officer present at the time and say "Good evening, Sir".

When the Commandant or senior officer of the Mess arrives, the members and guests rise.

Dinner will be announced by the Mess Steward to the Mess President who will inform the senior officer present and who is not a guest.

When dinner is announced, the senior officer will enter the dining-room first accompanied by the senior guest. They will be followed by the other head table guests and their hosts. All other officers and guests will then follow without regard to precedence.

The number of officers present at a Mess dinner and the Mess facilities dictate the seating plan. The ideal is one long table with the senior member of the Mess in the center of the table with the next senior directly opposite him. Senior guests are seated on the right and left of these officers.

On entering the dining-room, officers and guests stand behind their chairs until grace has been said.

If an officer should be late for dinner, he must go straight to the Mess President and apologize.

The wine is passed from right to left and every officer

should pass it on as soon as it reaches him, after helping himself.

When the wine has passed the following sequence of events will take place:

- a. The Mess President will rise, leaving his glass on the table, rap for attention with his gavel and say, "Mr. Vice, the Queen". He will then sit down.
- b. Mr. Vice will then rise, leaving his glass on the table, and say, "Gentlemen", pause "The Queen".
- c. All members will then rise and lift their glasses. Six bars of "God Save The Queen" will then be played. On completion of the music, members will say, "The Queen", and drink the Loyal Toast. In the event that no band is present, then the Loyal Toast will be drunk as soon as all members are standing.

It is the custom, in repeating the Loyal Toast in some Messes to say "The Queen, God Bless Her". In the Corps of RCEME Officers' Mess this practice is not followed.

It is not imperative that the Loyal Toast be drunk in wine. The glasses may be filled with water or any other non-alcoholic drink which the officer has been drinking at dinner.

After the Loyal Toast has been drunk the senior officer may invite the Bandmaster to come in and sit with him for a few minutes and drink a glass of wine and be presented to the principal guest.

Smoking is not allowed at dinner until the senior officer has given permission or has lit a cigarette himself. Smoking is not permitted before the Loyal Toast.

Officers may not leave the table until the senior officer has done so. When he rises, all rise and remain standing until he and those accompanying him have left the dining-room. Then the others may leave also or may resume their seats and continue their conversations.

The Vice President may not leave the table until all others have done so.

If duty requires an officer to leave the dinner table before the senior officer, he sends a message through a waiter

to the Mess President asking his permission.

After dinner no officer will leave the Mess until the senior officer and all official guests have done so or until such time as the senior officer gives permission to leave. If for a sufficiently important reason an officer desires to leave before the senior officer has done so, he must go to the Mess President and ask to be excused, stating his reason.

## CORPS STATUS

The Corps was formed from the Engineering portion of RCOC on the 1st of February 1944. RCE and RCASC contributed a small number of officers and men to the newly formed Corps. These Corps, RCE, RCASC and RCOC, are considered to be mounted Corps. Notwithstanding this genealogy, The Corps is, at this time, considered to be a Dismounted Corps.

-HQ 1935-1 (Adm 1B) 7 Dec 1962

The Corps stands 12th in the Order of Precedence of the Canadian Army, ranking immediately before The Royal Canadian Army Pay Corps and immediately after The Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps.

-CAO 220-3, 7 Feb 55

The officers and men of The Corps are considered combatant in the fullest possible sense.

-GO 127/1944 as amended by GO 460/1944

## CARDS

Visiting cards, once an essential part of the very strict routine of social life, are comparatively unimportant today and this transition may be regarded as one of the marks of the change our customs have undergone.

Notwithstanding, the Services cling to the custom of using visiting cards on various occasions such as formal calls, dinner calls, farewell calls and receiving lines.



## PAPER

The best material for visiting cards is a heavy white pasteboard or card of the very best quality (two sheet board). The size of an officer's card is 1 1/2 by 3 inches. It is suggested that envelopes should be ordered to match the visiting cards, so that they may be sent with flowers or presents.

## LETTERING

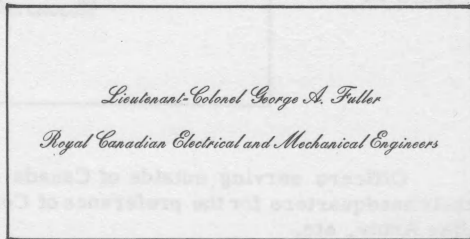
Visiting cards are printed in black from a plate engraved with "Script" lettering.

## ENGRAVING THE NAME

As a matter of rule no abbreviations, other than "Mr." for officers below the rank of captain, are used before the name. Initials or one Christian name is just as acceptable as a full list of given names.

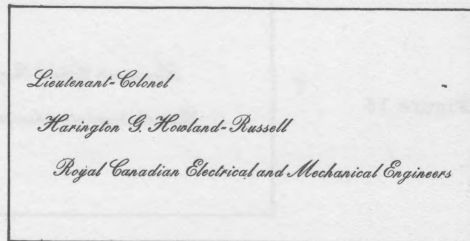
The rank in full and the name will be placed on one line if possible and The Corps title shortened for practical reasons to Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, centered, on the next.

Figure 11



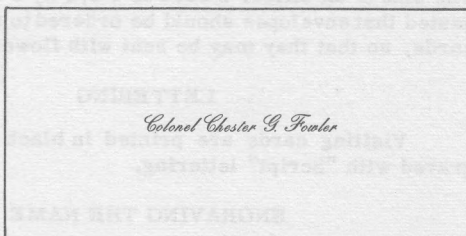
If the name is extremely long, for example Lieutenant-Colonel Harington G. Howland-Russell, it is permitted to place the Lieutenant-Colonel above with the name and Corps title indented as shown:

Figure 12



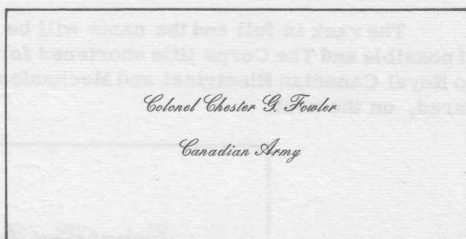
Colonels of The Corps may have their cards engraved with rank and name or rank and name with Canadian Army centered on the following line.

Figure 13



or

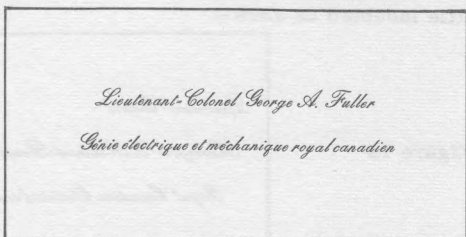
Figure 14



Officers serving outside of Canada should enquire at their headquarters for the preference of Corps title or Canadian Army, etc.

Sometimes in foreign service it may be desirable to have two sets of visiting cards, one engraved in English, the other engraved in French or in the language of the country in which they are serving.

Figure 15



Decorations are not shown.

There must be no other wording unless the officer is a member of a recognized club, when the name of such club may be inserted in small script in the bottom left-hand corner (a sports club does not come within the meaning of recognized clubs).

## RCEME CORPS ASSOCIATION

The object of the Association is to foster the development of The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers; to maintain close liaison between members of The Corps and the engineering profession; and to encourage co-operation with other arms and services with a view to improving general efficiency.

All present and former RCEME officers of the CA(R), CA(M), Reserve and Supplementary Reserve forces, who pay the prescribed fees of the Association in their respective Chapters, may become members.

The Association is organized on a command basis. Each Command comprises a Chapter to which all members resident in that Command belong.

Groups of ten members or larger may be formed in any locality in the Command.

The RCEME Corps Association is a member of the Conference of Defence Associations whose object is to consider the problems of National Defence; to assist the Government of Canada in placing these problems before the people of Canada; to co-ordinate the activities of the Service Associations in matters of common interest in all Services; to make such recommendations to the Government of Canada as may appear expedient, and generally to promote the welfare of the defence forces of Canada as a whole.

## RCEME CORPS OFFICERS' FUND

The home station of the Fund is The Corps of RCEME Officers' Mess, RCEME School, Kingston.

The purpose of this fund is to provide general financing of any project which shall be for the benefit of the officers of The Corps as a whole.

Membership in the Fund is voluntary, but all serving regular officers are expected to join.

The Executive Committee appointed by the Director to administer the Fund and the Non-Public Property purchased from the monies of the Fund are:

- |            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| President  | - | Commandant RCEME School  |
| Members    | - | The Command EMES<br>Commanding Officers of base workshops<br>A lieutenant-colonel from DEME<br>DADEME 4 CIBG |
| Secretary- |   |  |
| Treasurer  | - | An officer from the staff of RCEME School  |

The fund is used for purchasing movable articles of intrinsic value which shall enhance the traditions of The Corps, such as silverware, candelabra, tea services, paintings, etc.

All articles purchased from the monies of the Fund are held at The Corps Mess or such other units as may be designated by the Executive Committee.

All articles purchased remain the property of the Fund.

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